DGCA's Warning to Foreign Airlines on Cargo Space

4582. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the DGCA has issued a warning to foreign airlines not to create artificial scarcity of cargo space on their airlines;

(b) if so, the details of the notice by DGCA;

(c) the foreign airlines which are indulging in such practices;

(d) to what extent Indian exports have been affected by such tactics of foreign airlines to create mismatch between space and exports; and

(e) the steps proposed to monitor such situations by the DGCA?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (e) There is no evidence to show that scarcity of space was artificially created by the airlines. However, following a report from the Exporters' Association that about 2000 tonnes of cargo backlog is pending at Delhi and other airports, the Government have advised the foreign airlines to provide sufficient cargo space in their flights to expedite clearance of cargo from Indian airports.

Development Projects in Maharashtra

4583. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the implementation of ongoing major development projects in Maharashtra for the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise;

(c) whether Government have decided to develop Nagpur as International Hub for handling export goods as also for international passenger traffic; and

(d) if so, the details of representations received from MPs in the region and action taken for upgradation of Nagpur Airport for handling international passenger traffic?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The project undertaken in Maharashtra by Airports Authority of India (AAI) are given below:—

(1) Expansion of apron, taxiway and provision of shoulders and construction of new control tower have been taken up in Nagpur airport;

(2) Extension of runway to 9000 ft., construction of new apron, link taxiway and new terminal building and car park area are at hand in Aurangabad airport;

(3) Work relating to extension of Fast Taxi track and construction of parallel taxi track; construction of Bay No. 14 and installation of aerobridges at Bay No. 17, 18 and 19 along with security hold are in progress in Mumbai airport.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, Airports Authority of India has developed Nagpur Airport as a Model Airport in 1996 for limited international operations with all passenger facilities. No airline has volunteered to operate international flights through Nagpur airport. An integrated cargo and courier terminal at Nagpur airport has already been commissioned by AAI in November, 1997 for handling international domestic cargo and courier bags at a cost of Rs. 2 crores.

International Airport at Mopa (Goa)

4584. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet Committee has cleared the proposal for International airport at Mopa in Goa on Build-Own-Operate and Transfer basis recently;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of its construction and by when it is likely to be in operation;

(c) whether the existing domestic airport would continue to operate; and

(d) whether Government would made the domestic airport more convenient from the tourist point of view?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The Government has given its 'in principle